

## **Minutes for the 11/10/09 meeting of the Human Rights Commission Subcommittee:**

Present: Val Ginn, Michael Munroe, Christine Andrews, Ken Freidenberg, Gary Byron

The first order of business was the **Newington's Got Talent - Fund Raiser for Human Services.**

Val Ginn reported that the HRC can use the Newington Town Hall Council Chambers for the fundraiser. Val said that she has reserved January 30 and a snow date of January 31 for the auditions. She also reported reserving February 26 and a snow date of February 27 for the main show. Ken Freidenberg stated that he would check on the need for a custodian to be present for any weekend time that the HRC will be using the Council Chambers. Val offered to contact someone to help out with the logistics of lighting, sound system, microphones, etc. Val also said that she would check to see if any signs would be able to be hung on the stage curtains. The HRC subcommittee then went to the actual Council Chambers to see the set up for themselves. The capacity for the venue is 270 people. A concern was the Council Members desks which are in front of the stage and are not movable. It was agreed that some sort of covering would be needed for this. Once again it was agreed that people knowledgeable about the lighting and stage production would need to be involved in this project.

It was agreed that the number of acts would be limited to 15 - 20 depending on the number and quality of the acts at the audition. Steve Parker and Gary Byron will be the hosts for the show. Gary made a request that he and Steve will need a floor director to be in charge of keeping the show running smoothly. Gary also stated that he and Steve would need an advance copy of the order of the acts and approximate time between acts. Gary was invited to come to the auditions to get a sense of the type of acts that will be participating. The HRC subcommittee said that a local celebrity judge would be fun to have participate in the program. Val stated that she would contact a former member of The Platters that lives in Newington to see if he would be interested. Gary said that he would try and contact some members of the local media to gauge their interest and availability.

The HRC subcommittee agreed that a flyer promoting the event that would be sent to the local schools, would need to be ready by the end of November. The flyer would then be distributed in the schools before Christmas. Val, Christine, and Mike agreed to meet at Val's house on Monday November 16, 2009 at 6:30 PM to work on the flyer. Val and Christine said that they would contact other HRC members to see if they would like to attend this meeting also. Once the flyer is completed Ken offered to get it approved by the school officials for distribution in the schools. Phyllis DiCara is working on drafting a waiver form for the show participants.

The HRC subcommittee identified the importance of advertising for the fundraiser. Ken stated that he will check into getting the event listed on the Town of Newington's web site. Val said that she would check with the Downtown Business Association to see if they would help with advertising. NCTV, local newspapers, and the Newington Library were also identified as advertising mediums to be used.

There was no **Other Business.**

There was no **Public Participation.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted By: Michael Munroe, Secretary

It was agreed that the next meeting of the subcommittee would be on **December 8th at 7:00 PM.**